

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 9, 19 - 32, 38 and 45 - 46 remain active in this application. Claims 10 - 17, 33 - 37 and 39 - 44 have previously been canceled. Amendment of claims 23 and 38 has been requested to improve form. No new matter has been introduced into the application. The indication of allowability of claims 1, 19 - 22, 38 (subject to correction), and 45 - 46 and the acceptance of the drawings filed August 6, 2004 are noted with appreciation.

The Examiner has objected to claim 38 due to inexact antecedent language correspondence. This objection is respectfully traversed as being moot in view of the above amendment. Antecedent language correspondence is now believed to be exact throughout the claim. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

The Examiner has also objected to the disclosure in regard to the description of Figures 18 and 19. This objection is also respectfully traversed.

In regard to the shaded rectangle at the left of Figure 18, it is again respectfully submitted that the illustration is a generic depiction of a circuit (possibly complementary to the feedback circuit 500) for injecting additional turn-on current into the thyristor gate, such as the optional capacitance discussed at page 22, lines 8 - 9, and need not be discussed in greater detail since suitable circuits would be apparent to those skilled in the art, particularly in view of the discussion of Figures 9 - 14 which depict the injection of additional turn-on current into the thyristor by means of various circuits. By the same token, the identification of terminal B in Figure 19 simply identifies a terminal where turn-on current can be injected depicted in regard to other Figures such as Figures 15 and 16 and

as discussed at least at page 21, line 15. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 - 9, 26, 31 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement; the Examiner asserting that the written description does not reasonably convey to one of ordinary skill in the relevant art that the inventor was in possession of the claimed invention at the time the invention was made. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's position is not well-taken since the Examiner admits that the features of the invention recited in these claims are clearly disclosed and illustrated in connection with monolithic embodiments of the invention for which equivalent circuits are clearly illustrated and discussed in detail and it is axiomatic that the equivalent circuit of a monolithic device can be embodied by discrete devices for which exemplary structures and packages are clearly illustrated and discussed in detail. Further, it is clearly stated at page 21, line 4, of the specification as originally filed that "[t]he various connections can be made on board 406" which is well-illustrated in Figure 17D. Therefore, it is clear that one of ordinary skill in the relevant art would have no doubt, whatsoever, that the inventor was in possession of the claimed subject matter at the time the application was filed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's position is unsupported and without basis in the statute or relevant precedent and reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 23 - 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This ground of rejection is also respectfully traversed,

particularly as being moot in view of the above-requested amendment.

The Examiner questions whether lines 19 - 20 of the claim refers to each of the second terminals of the second plurality of discrete switching devices. No criticisms of any other claim included within this rejection is indicated. By the above-requested amendment the language "respective ones of" has been added to the questioned passage of the claim in a manner identical to amendments of other passages of the claim made in the previous amendment of August 6, 2004, which appears to have been acceptable to the Examiner. Therefore, no ambiguity remains in the questioned passage and reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection of claims 23 - 32 is respectfully requested.

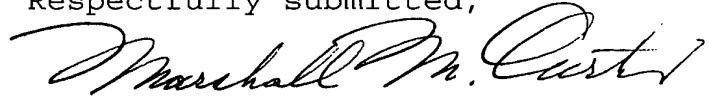
It is also respectfully submitted that entry of the above-requested amendments is in order and well-justified. The above-requested amendments are limited to matters of form and criticisms made by the Examiner in the present official action although the amendment to claim 38 makes antecedent language exact at a point not mentioned by the Examiner. Further, the amendments which have been requested conform to prior amendments which appear to have been acceptable to the Examiner. Therefore, it is clear that the requested amendments are not substantive and do not raise any new issue. Moreover, no grounds of rejection based on prior art are stated in the present office action and entry of the amendments is well-justified in placing the application in *prima facie* condition for allowance or, in the alternative, as improving form for appeal by materially reducing and simplifying issues. Accordingly, entry of the above-requested amendments is respectfully requested.

Since all rejections, objections and requirements contained in the outstanding official action have been

fully answered and shown to be in error and/or inapplicable to the present claims, it is respectfully submitted that reconsideration is now in order under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b) and such reconsideration is respectfully requested. Upon reconsideration, it is also respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is therefore respectfully requested. If, upon reconsideration, any issue is seen to remain, It is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number given below in order to expeditiously resolve the same.

If an extension of time is required for this response to be considered as being timely filed, a conditional petition is hereby made for such extension of time. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,



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